E PIPELINE



September 2017 Volume 21, Issue 2

Important Preparedness Information

This "Pipeline" has been provided by the Town of Charlestown to share critical emergency information with our residents and visitors in the event of severe weather. The information provided contains educational materials as well as valuable resources. We encourage you to take a few minutes to review this information and keep it posted in an easily accessible location should you need to refer to it at a later date. **PLEASE NOTE**: the information provided is meant to serve only as a guide. Preparation and common sense are always your best defense!

Do not underestimate the potential danger of severe weather.

Hazard Mitigation Plan Updated

The Charlestown Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan has been updated and approved by the Town Council and FEMA. This plan is in effect for the next five years. Please go to the Building Zoning section of the Town's website http://www.charlestownri.org/index.asp to view/download a copy of the plan.

CEMA Needs Volunteers All Year Long

"The Power, Phone and Cable TV have been off for 3 days. Nothing to do! I wish I had joined

<u>Charlestown Emergency Management</u>

as a Volunteer."

If this was <u>you</u>, join us before the next Disaster. We have volunteer assignments to match any individual's skill set. Contact CEMA Deputy Director Dr. Sara Michaud at 401-327-0187 or Email



Blizzards and Extreme Cold

https://www.ready.gov/winterweather



Sign up for Code Red

https://public.coderedweb.com/ CNE/F7C384CF8C1D

Charlestown's Emergency Management Teams

- EOC: Emergency Operations Center Staff and Call Takers
- EOC: Ham Radio Team: FCC Licensed Radio Operators
- MEDS: Medical Emergency Distribution System -Volunteers for Emergency Vaccination Clinics
- Emergency Vehicle Couriers 4-Wheel Drive
- Emergency Reception Station Team
- Emergency Neighborhood Watch Volunteers
- CERT: Community Emergency Response Team

American Red Cross Pre-Packed Disaster
Kits and First Aid Kits
may be purchased on-line at

www.riredcross.org or by calling 401-831-7700 or by contacting the company of your choice.

http://www.redcrossstore.org/category/id/1

"It Can Happen Here"

Extraordinary weather patterns and historic weather events seem to be a common occurrence nowadays with the most recent event happening in Texas when Hurricane Harvey dumped over 50" of rain, resulting in unimaginable and historic flooding. The importance of being prepared for such events is becoming not just a priority but an absolute necessity. Flooding is the most common natural disaster in the United States and can happen anywhere. It's important to note that more than 20 percent of flood claims come from properties located outside of the high risk flood zones. The Town of Charlestown has been working hard to become a more resilient community through its code enforcement and floodplain management programs; however, there are steps you can take as well to be better prepared.

Get a Flood Insurance Policy

- Homeowner's insurance policies do not cover damage from floods. However, because our community
 participates in the National Flood Insurance Program, you can purchase a separate flood insurance policy. This insurance
 is backed by the Federal Government and is available to everyone, even properties that have been flooded.
- A flood insurance policy will help pay for repairs after a flood and, in some cases, it will help pay the costs of elevating a substantially damaged building.
- Don't wait until the next flood to buy insurance protection. In most cases, there is a 30 day waiting period before NFIP
 coverage takes effect.
- Renters should also consider buying a flood insurance policy for their contents.
- Be sure to photograph your home's contents and put important papers and insurance policies in a safe place.

If you already have a flood insurance policy

- Verify your Flood Zone with recent updates to the Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRM's), your home may be located in a
 different zone from what your insurance company has on file.
- Obtain an Elevation Certificate for your dwelling and verify your insurance company has based the premium on your dwellings true height. (Note: Should you need an Elevation Certificate, be sure to contact the Building Department to see if we have one on file. All Elevation Certificates received are retained as permanent records and copies are available upon request.)
- Higher deductibles may also reduce your premium.

Consider some permanent flood protection measures

- Proper grading around the exterior of your home should drain water away from the foundation.
- Install gutters and downspouts and verify proper drainage away from the foundation.
- Incorporate Flood Mitigation into your remodeling projects such as elevating your mechanical and electrical equipment.
- Some properties may be mitigated by installing flood vents and/or filling in basement/crawlspace areas that are below grade on all sides.
- Elevate your dwelling above the Base Flood Elevation (BFE). Drastic discounts may be achieved for each foot of elevation above the Base Flood. Note: The RI State Building Code requires a minimum of one foot of freeboard above the BFE. (lowest floor at BFE plus 1 foot)
- Before you build, obtain the proper Building Permits and do it right the first time.
- You may look up your property's Flood Zone Information on the Town's website at http://www.charlestownri.org (see GIS link symbol to right); additional information is also available under the Building/Zoning Department or at http://www.ready.gov/floods;



Additional flood protection measures with no cost

- Keep debris and trash out of streams, ditches and storm drains.
- Report missing or damaged silt fence; they help keep our streams clean.
- Sign up with the Town for "Code Red", an emergency messaging system, and "Constant Contact" to stay informed.
- Elevate your belongings from the basement floor.
- During heavy rains check the current river status (flood gauge) at http://water.weather.gov/ahps/.

You may want to contact your insurance agent to discuss your policy and options. Additionally, I would encourage you to visit FEMA's webpage at http://www.fema.gov/hazard-mitigation-assistance to learn more about programs the Town may be able

Continued...

to participate in for financial assistance, pending funding under FEMA's Hazard Mitigation Assistance Program. Feel free to contact me (401)364-1215 or bv email jwarner@charlestownri.org should you have any questions pertaining to mitigation measures for your property.

Joseph L. Warner, Jr., CBO, CFM Building/Zoning Official Floodplain Manager

Before a Hurricane

To prepare for a hurricane, you should take the following measures:

- Make plans to secure your property. Permanent storm shutters offer the best protection for windows. A second option is to board up windows with plywood cut to fit and ready to install.
- Be sure trees and shrubs around your home are well trimmed.
- Clear loose and clogged rain gutters and downspouts.
- Determine how and where to secure your boat.
- Become informed about hazards and emergencies that may affect you and your family.
- Collect and assemble disaster and medical supply kits.
- Learn where to seek shelter from all types of hazards.
- Identify the community warning systems and evacuation routes.
- Designate a family meeting place.
- Designate an emergency contact outside of your area.
- Teach your children how and when to use 911.
- Post important phone numbers by all phones.
- Prepare in advance how to care for pets when disaster strikes.
- Store extra food and water for family members as well as pets.
- Plan for utility shut-offs. If you are sure you have time, shut off water, gas, and electricity if evacuating.
- Make a record of your personal property for insurance purposes. Take photos or a video of the interior and exterior of your home. Include personal belongings in your inventory.
- Keep important documents and medical information in a waterproof container. Secure vital records off premises or include as part of a disaster supply kit.
- Have cash readily available with small bills (banks and ATM machines may not be available)
- Fill all medical prescriptions.
- Fill fuel tanks for all vehicles and generators.

During a Hurricane

- Monitor local media for emergency instructions
- Stay indoors. Stay away from doors and windows. Locate a safe room or area in the interior of your home.
- Do not go outside in the calm of the hurricane "eye". In the "eye" winds and rain may stop for a few minutes or more than an hour. Beware—winds will return with greater intensity from the opposite direction.
- Call 911 ONLY for emergencies. Avoid using the telephone unless necessary.

Evacuation Procedures Routes and Signage



The Charlestown Emergency Management Agency will commence tracking of any hurricane with the potential of taking a path along the Atlantic coastline five days prior to a potential arrival here in the Northeast. Should technology and advisories from the National Weather Service and the National

Hurricane Center indicate a path that could pose a threat in this area, our local Emergency Operations Center will be staffed 24/7 and closely monitor the storm's path, wind velocity and potential for storm surge. Should conditions and advisories warrant, mandatory evacuation of Charlestown coastal areas will be ordered and commence prior to anticipated storm arrival. Following is some vital information regarding evacuation procedures, routes and posted signage:

If ordered to evacuate, you should leave right away and have provisions in place for lodging, food and personal care at a designated destination.

When leaving the area, use the State established community evacuation routes, which will lead you directly away from the coastline to the closest major highway of travel (I-95). The routing for Charlestown is as follows:

- Residents leaving via West Beach Rd. or any Rd. west (south) of West Beach Rd. will be directed onto Rt. 216 and to I-95.
- All other Charlestown residents will be directed onto Rt. 2, then onto Rt. 112 to Rt. 138 and onto I-95.
- To view evacuation routing, visit the State website at www.riema.ri.gov/ and click on Citizens section. Scroll down to Rhode Island Hurricane Evacuation Maps. Click on Charlestown or any other community to download PDF.
- Note the blue evacuation signs that are installed within coastal areas and the designated evacuation routes. By following the signage, people not familiar with local roads will be aided in leaving the area via the most direct route.
- Routes within each Rhode Island community have been designated so as not to impact the evacuation of adjoining communities. Please cooperate.

Plan to leave the area and have a definite destination. It is recommended that you travel to a local hurricane certified shelter where you will receive lodging, food and water. Under these conditions, further travel is not advised since other serious problems might be incurred. A certified managed shelter will provide you with a high degree of safety and security and remove much of the stress that might result from possibly being stranded on a high-

If you go to a Shelter...

Charlestown residents, renters and tourists should be advised that the designated hurricane certified shelter is the Chariho Middle School located on Switch Rd. in Richmond. To reach the shelter, take Rt. 2 onto Rt. 112 and make a left onto Rt. 91. Travel west on Rt. 91 for approximately (3) miles and go right onto Switch Rd. The Chariho School Campus is located on the left about (1) mile from Rt. 91. The Middle School is located at the rear of the Campus. A limited number of directional shelter signs have been installed along the major routes. These can be observed with a red cross (+) in the middle of the sign.

Although the Charlestown Elementary School might suffice under some states of emergency, it has no showers and can only be used short-term (under 24 hours). The Chariho Middle School offers excellent facilities to accommodate shelter requirements for an extended period of time that might involve a number of days. Shelter Team volunteers are trained in areas of registration, administering of CPR/AED, basic first aid, mass care including food and dormitory lodging, communications and security. Shelter patients will be encouraged to volunteer their services in areas where assistance may be needed.

Arrangements are in place to utilize school food inventories, kitchen facilities and cafeteria areas. In addition, the Middle School offers excellent male and female locker room areas with ample bathroom and shower facilities. In addition to being a safe structure, the facility offers a lot of comfort opportunities for all age groups. Residents should

Shelter continued...

not envision this facility as being similar to some of those that were depicted along the Gulf Coast following hurricane Katrina.

NOTE: Not all shelters are open in all storms. Stay aware by checking with the latest local media information.

SOME THINGS TO BRING TO A SHELTER:

- Personal hygiene items
- Bedding such as sleeping bags, air mattresses and pillows for your own use (blankets and cots will be provided)
- Non-perishable snacks and personal meals
- Extra change of clothing
- Personal items (medications, eyeglasses, hearing aid, flashlights, toothbrushes, battery-operated radio, special diet foods, if appropriate)
- Baby supplies; ample amounts of baby food, formula, juice, diapers and wipes, and a stroller, portable crib or playpen
- Driver's license, other identification
- Cash, traveler's checks
- Important documents
- First Aid Kit
- Cards, Games, Books

WHAT NOT TO BRING TO A SHELTER:

- Weapons or explosive devices
- Intoxicating beverages
- Illegal drugs



Important Phone Numbers to Place by the Phone

Charlestown Ambulance Rescue (401-364-3742 for routine calls)	401-346-7744	Harbor Master	401-641-3083
Charlestown Animal Shelter	401-364-1211	National Grid (electricity)	800-465-1212
Charlestown Building Inspector	401-364-1215	National Grid Text Alerts	Text "STORM" to 64743 then choose "c" for RI location
Charlestown DPW	401-364-1230	Police—Charlestown Automated Information System	401-213-6960
Charlestown Transfer Station	401-364-1220	Police—Charlestown	401-364-1212
Charlestown Town Hall	401-364-1200	Police—RI State	401-539-2323
Cox Cable Company	401-383-2000	RI Dept. of Health Office of Drinking Water Quality	401-222-6867
Hospital—South County	401-782-8000	RI American Rd Cross	401-831-7700 or 800-842-1122
Hospital—Westerly	401-596-6000	Verizon Phone Co. Repair	1-800-837-4966

Re-entry Into Evacuated Areas

Following evacuation, all roads leading into those areas will be blocked off by Police, Fire or Military personnel until such time that it is determined that re-entry by residents or contractors is deemed to be safe and advisable. To the extent possible. security for all of these areas will be provided. In order to assure for public safety and security concerns, a re-entry policy has been put in place. Residents, renters and contractors should make note of the following procedures to be followed to gain re-entry into evacuated areas:

Status for re-entry into evacuated areas will be made available to the public as part of periodic news releases made through various media resources.

Residents will be required to appear at Town Hall with photo identification and obtain a re-entry pass following confirmation of ownership for a particular property. Re-entry passes will be issued at the Tax Assessor's office area within Town Hall.

Contractors seeking re-entry must be duly licensed in Rhode Island, present a copy of a contract or notarized letter from the property owner authorizing access to the owner's property and subsequently obtain a re-entry pass.

Re-entry passes are stamped, dated and contain an expiration date. Passes are not transferable to any other parties.

Only after public safety and security are deemed to be under control within the community by the Charlestown Police Department and the Charlestown Emergency Management Agency, will the re-entry requirements be removed.

Building Safety Evaluation Placard:

- UNSAFE (Red Card) Do Not Enter or Occupy
- RESTRICTED USE (Yellow Card) Restriction Listed on Card
- INSPECTED (Green Card) Lawful Occupancy Permitted

Repairs



- Take video or photos of all damage before repairs and keep receipts for insurance purposes.
- Contact your insurance company. Have your policy readily available so you can refer to the extent of your coverage.
- Make temporary repairs to correct safety hazards and minimize further damage. This may include covering holes in the roof, walls or windows and debris removal.
- Protect yourself from contractor fraud. Only hire licensed contractors to do repairs. Check with your local building department. Phone 401-364-1215.
- Contact your local building department to obtain required permits for demolition or repairs 401-364-1215.

DISINFECTION OF WELLS

- 1. Pour two cups of household bleach (5.25%) or a proportionately smaller amount of a stronger solution mixed with two gallons of water down along the well casing. This is adequate for a typical well (100' deep & 4" diameter). For deeper/shallower or wider/narrower wells, use proportionately different amounts.
- 2. Operate the well pump until the piping system is full of chlorinated water from within the well indicated by a chlorine odor from each faucet.
- 3. Allow chlorine to remain in the well and piping system over-
- 4. Pump the water to waste or use for non-consumptive purposes until no odor of chlorine is detected.
- 5. Allowing time for conditions to stabilize, arrange for a bacterial examination with the appropriate state agency or a HEALTH licensed laboratory to ensure the disinfection procedure was successful. Contact the HEALTH Office of Drinking Water Quality at 401-222-6867 if you have any questions.

HEAT DISINFECTION

- 1. Strain cloudy water through a clean cloth into a container to remove any sediment or floating matter. If water is clear, omit the step.
- Boil the water vigorously (rolling boil) for at least one full mi-
- 3. After allowing the water to cool, it is ready to use. To improve taste, add a pinch of salt to each quart of boiled water or pour it back and forth from one clean container to another several times.

CHEMICAL DISINFECTION

Use fragrance—or additive-free bleach. Read the label to find the % chlorine.

% Chlorine	Drops added per quart		
	Clear Water	Cloudy Water	
4 to 6%	2	4	
7 to 10%	1	2	
Unknown	10	20	

¹ teaspoon equals approximately 100 drops.

- Mix thoroughly by stirring or shaking the water in the container.
- 2. Let water stand 30 minutes.
- A slight chlorine odor should be present in the water. If not, repeat the dosage and let stand an additional 15 minutes.



Police Automated Information System 401-213-6960



Checklist Forms Available On-Line at:

ON-LINE: http://www.cdc.gov/phpr/ readywrigley/checklists.htm

EMERGENCY KIT CHECKLIST			
An emergency kit is a collection of items that you may need in an emergency. Below are some items to help get you started.			
☐ Water-one gallon per person, per day			
☐ Food (enough to last 3 days)			
☐ Flashlight			
Radio (NOAA Weather Radio, if possible)			
□ Extra batteries			
First aid kit			
■ Medications			
Family and emergency contact information			
□ Edra set of car keys and house keys			
☐ Cell phone with chargers			
Personal documents			
☐ Extra cash			
☐ Emergency blanket			
□ Maps			
☐ Manual can opener			
SA SECONDARY STATE OF THE SECONDARY STATE OF			



Wrigley and her family sit down to go over their family communication plan.

Fill out a plan with your family to have in an emergency.

MY FAMILY COMMUNICATION PLAN

My Name:

My Address:

My Telephone Number:

Meeting Place:

Family Information

Work Number:

Meighbor/Relative name and number:

Out of town contact name and number:

Always remember to dial \$11 in emergencies.

	Cut libra
	BACKPACK EMERGENCY CARD
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	Since Sold Sold Sold Sold Sold Sold Sold Sold
	Bother Ind.

RI Special Needs Emergency Registry

Who should register?

Anyone with any special need that lives in RI. This includes anyone who relies upon an assistive device (cane, walker, etc) for getting around, uses oxygen, diabetic, visually or hearing impaired as examples.

Why should I register?

This assists the Town of Charlestown when preparing for an emergency event. We need to know how many people may need emergency support in the case of long term power outages, extensive stretches of extreme cold or heat, and the special support that may be needed like refrigerator space for medications. Space in a shelter for wheelchairs or other pieces of equipment that may be necessary.

Who will see my information?

The RI Department of Health manages the list. Only registered emergency personnel in Charlestown have direct access to this list. In the event of an emergency, specific information may be shared with the Chief of Police, Medical/Rescue crews and any personnel dispatched for services to a registered member.

How can I register?

Visit <u>www.health.ri.gov/emregistry</u>. Please keep your information up to date. You can login in and makes changes as necessary. This is especially important if you move, change phone numbers or have a significant change in your needs.

Where can I get more information?

Visit http://health.ri.gov/emergency/about/specialneedsregistry/ for additional information. You may also contact Charlestown Deputy Director Dr. Sara Michaud at CEMADeputyDirector@charlestownri.org or by phone at 401-327-0187.

Please remember to be prepared for an emergency. You should always supplies and provisions available to take care of yourself for a minimum of three days. There may be emergencies where roads are impassible so be prepared to shelter in place.

Enroll on-line NOW... not when it's too late!

Register ON-LINE: https://kidsnet.health.ri.gov/ emregistry/form.html



London Avenue, Cranston, Kt U2/20 Off register online at www.neath.rt.gov/emregistry. It you have questions, please call (401) 946-9996 (voice) or RI Relay 711 (TTY). If you cannot fill out this form on your own, please have a family member, caregiver, or other representative complete the form and submit it on your behalf.					
er, or other representativ	e complete the form and submit it on you		Registration Updated Registratio		
General Information	(Fields marked with an asterisk (*) are ma	ndatory)	10/2013		
NAME: First:	Middle:	Last:	SEX: \square M \square I		
DATE OF BIRTH:	STREET ADDRES	S*:			
	or FLOOR: CITY/TOW				
	CELL PHONE:				
TTY:	E-MAIL:				
EMERGENCY CONT		CONTACT'			
Life Support Systems	Contract to the same	Mobility			
Which of the following	g do you use? (Check all that apply)	Are you confined to b	ed? □ Yes □ No		
□ Oxygen: □ Tank	□ Oxygen: □ Tanks □ Concentrator		t ssistance?		
☐ Respirator/Ventilator: ☐ Battery backup for unit?		Which of the llowing	ng you use? (Check all that apply)		
□ Dialysis: □ Clini	c □ Home	□-Wı ek air 'obili	□ We all vir lability wish		
□ Electrical: □ Pace	maker Defibrillator	L Wal r/Cane	☐ Prosthesis:		
Are you diabetic?	Yes □ No	utces	☐ Other: ☐ None of the above		
Insulin-dependent? ☐ Yes ☐ No		THE PROPERTY OF THE PROPERTY O	The second secon		
□ Other:	□ None of he Above	SECURITY CONTRACTOR SECURITY S	se the back of this form, if needed)		
Sensory, Cognitive, and Psychiatric Conditions Please list other disabilities or relevant conditions:					
Which of these apply to you? (Check all that apply)					
□ Visually impaired	☐ Speech impaired				
☐ Legally blind	☐ Non-verbal	Language			
☐ Hard of hearing	□ Cognitively/Developmentally	The same of the sa	you prefer to receive emergency		
☐ Use hearing aids	delayed	communications or as	ssistance?		
□ Deaf			ish □ French □ Portuguese		
☐ Seizure disorder	☐ Alzheimer's/Dementia	11	onese Russian Krahn		
	☐ Psychiatric Condition:	□ Khmer □ Farsi			
☐ None of the above		Cape Verdean Cre	ole 🗆 Other:		
ETHNICITY: Hispanic or Latino?					
NOTE: By signing this form and submitting it to RIEMA/HEALTH, I agree to permit my information to be shared with local and state emergency responders. I understand that this is a voluntary program. While RIEMA/HEALTH will					

List relationship if completing on individual's behalf:

Rhode Island Special Needs Emergency Registry
For Rhode Islanders with disabilities, chronic conditions, and special healthcare needs

ns: To be included in the Registry, please fill out this form, sign it, and send it to RIEMA, Database Manager 645 Ne

THE TOWN HALL PIPELINE

Charlestown Town Hall 4540 South County Trail Charlestown, RI 02813

Collection of Storm Related Debris

Debris resulting from a level 1 or level 2 hurricane will be relatively minimal and may be deposited at the Charlestown Recovery & Recycling Center under the rules, regulations and fee structure set forth by Town Ordinance. The Charlestown Department of Public Works will remove and transport all accumulated debris from Town maintained roads and municipal owned properties. Homeowners and Homeowner Associations must arrange for removal and transportation of debris from private roads and properties.

Owners of private properties are responsible for the removal of debris from their properties including transport to a collection-staging site and separation of debris at such site according to rules set forth within the Debris Management Plan. Trees that have fallen on homes or are threatening homes, may be removed under contract with the property owner, following the execution of a right-of-way property entry agreement and approval by a FEMA Public Assistance Officer. Private property owner applicants for this service will be required to seek recovery of contract costs from their insurance company, and reimburse FEMA.

Debris removal following a high level hurricane can be a monumental task requiring a long period of time, requiring the establishment of priorities and demanding the attention, cooperation and understanding of all residents.

Think ahead! Have a plan! Stay informed!

FEMA Download the App



Related Storm Links

Center Disease Control Printable Chart National Buoy System USCG Storm Center FEMA RIEMA READY.GOV CEMA

CERT
American Red Cross
American Red Cross RI
Special Needs (RI)
Charlestown Evacuation Map

http://www.emergency.cdc.gov/disasters/hurricanes/ http://www.nhc.noaa.gov/AT_Track_chart.pdf http://www.ndbc.noaa.gov/index.shtml http://www.uscg.mil/news/stormcenter/ http://www.fema.gov/ http://www.riema.ri.gov/

http://www.ready.gov http://www.charlestownri.org/

(Then Click on Emergency Services and then Charlestown Emergency Management)

https://www.citizencorps.gov/cert/

http://www.redcross.org/ http://www.riredcross.org/local/ri

https://kidsnet.health.ri.gov/emregistry/form.html

http://www.riema.ri.gov/resources/citizens/ Then go to the Evacuation Section